

In response to the Office Action dated April 18, 2002 (Paper No. 32),
please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 to read as follows. A marked-up copy of this claim showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

1. (Twice Amended) A process for producing a sugar nucleotide, which comprises:

selecting, as enzyme sources, a) a culture broth of a microorganism capable of producing quanosine-5'-triphosphate ("UTP") from a nucleotide precursor, or a treated product of the culture broth selected from the group consisting of a concentrated product of the culture broth, a dried product of the culture broth, a culture supernatant obtained by centrifuging the culture broth, a concentrated product of the culture supernatant, an enzyme preparation obtained from culture supernatant, cells obtained by centrifuging the culture broth, a dried product of the cells, a freeze-dried product of the cells, a surfactant-treated product of the cells, a solvent-treated product of the cells, a protein fraction of the cells, an immobilized product of the cells and an enzyme preparation obtained by extraction from the cells, and b) a culture broth or culture broths of at least one strain of microorganism having genes responsible for production of quanosine diphospho-sugar ("GDP-sugar") or uridine diphospho-sugar ("UDP-sugar") from a sugar selected

from the group consisting of glucose, fructose, galactose, glucosamine, N-acetylglucosamine, N-acetylgalactosamine, mannose, fucose N-acetylmannosamine, or a treated product of the culture broth selected from the group consisting of a concentrated product of the culture broth, a dried product of the culture broth, a culture supernatant obtained by centrifuging the culture broth, a concentrated product of the culture supernatant, an enzyme preparation obtained from culture supernatant, cells obtained by centrifuging the culture broth, a dried product of the cells, a freeze-dried product of the cells, a surfactant-treated product of the cells, a solvent-treated product of the cells, a protein fraction of the cells, an immobilized product of the cells and an enzyme preparation obtained by extraction from the cells;

allowing the enzyme sources, the nucleotide precursor and the sugar to be present in an aqueous medium to form and accumulate GDP-sugar or UDP-sugar in the aqueous medium; and

recovering GDP-sugar or UDP-sugar from the aqueous medium.

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended in order to recite the present invention with the specificity required by statute. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

At the outset, Applicants wish to confirm that claims 1, 5, 15, 16, 18, 20 and 72 are pending, not claims 1, 5, 8 and 15-20 as discussed in the Office Action. In that